

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (withdrawn) A stent for delivery of a drug, comprising:
a stent body capable of heating by exposure to an electromagnetic field; and
a layer of drug material applied to the stent body, said drug material being substantially effective only when the stent has been heated by exposure to the electromagnetic field and heat energy from the stent has heated the drug material.
2. (withdrawn) The stent of claim 1, wherein the drug material is a drug ingredient combined with a heat sensitive release material, and the drug material becomes effective after the release material releases a portion of the drug ingredient.
3. (withdrawn) The stent of claim 1, wherein the drug material is a drug ingredient adhered to the stent that is substantially inactive at normal body temperature and that becomes active after the stent has heated the drug ingredient to a temperature where is substantially active.
4. (withdrawn) The stent of claim 1, wherein the drug material is a drug ingredient that is to be delivered to tissue adjacent the stent and drug-tissue interaction is enhanced when heat from the stent causes tissue adjacent the stent to rise above normal body temperature when the drug ingredient is present.
5. (withdrawn) The stent of claim 1, wherein the drug material comprises an active ingredient that inhibits restenosis in the stent.
6. (currently amended) A method of using a drug-coated or drug-loaded stent, comprising:
by

inductively heating a the drug-coated or drug-loaded stent above a certain temperature at which drug activity in a the tissue adjacent the stent starts or is substantially enhanced, and maintaining that temperature for a specified period of time.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the stent is heated by radio frequency (RF) energy.

8. (currently amended) The method of as recited in claim 76, wherein the RF energy is generated via by a sending antenna outside a the patient's body, and the transferring energy is transferred to the stent.

9. (currently amended) A method of as recited in claim 6, wherein a sending antenna is placed inside the stent via by an endovascular catheter inserted through a patient's vessels.

10. (currently amended) A method of as recited in claim 6, wherein the drug activity inhibits is inhibiting proliferation of cells that cause restenosis.

11. (withdrawn) A stent for delivery of a drug, comprising:

a stent body capable of heating by exposure to an electromagnetic field; and a layer of drug material applied to the stent body, said drug material being substantially ineffective after the stent has been heated by exposure to the electromagnetic field and heat energy from the stent has heated the drug material.

12. (withdrawn) The stent of claim 11, wherein the drug material is a drug ingredient combined with a heat sensitive release material and the drug material becomes ineffective after the release material is heated.

13. (withdrawn) A metallic implant stent for delivery of a drug, comprising:

a body capable of being heated; and

a layer of drug material applied to the body, said drug material being effective while being heated.

14. (withdrawn) A method of using a drug-coated or drug-loaded stent by heating the stent above a certain temperature at which drug activity in the tissue adjacent the stent is substantially enhanced and maintaining that temperature for a specified period of time.

15. (withdrawn) An apparatus for delivery of a drug in a body comprising an implantable prosthetic member with the drug, the member being implanted in the body and controllably heated to elute the drug off of the member to treat the body, wherein the drug is operative when the member is heated.

16. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein heating of the implantable prosthetic member is invasive and is accomplished by applying a magnetic field over the body.

17. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the elution of the drug off of the implantable prosthetic member is to treat prostate disease.

18. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the elution of the drug off of the implantable prosthetic member is to treat diabetic disease.

19. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the elution of the drug off of the implantable prosthetic member is to treat ophthalmic disease.

20. (currently amended) A method of delivering a drug in a patient's body, comprising by controllably and inductively heating an implantable prosthetic member that comprises a with the drug, wherein the heating causes the drug to elute the drug from the member to treat the body, and wherein the drug is operative when the member is heated.

21. (withdrawn) An implantable device having at least one coated drug material capable of being heated inductively and delivering the drug material to a body when heated.
22. (withdrawn) The device of claim 21, wherein frequency of inductive heat is below 1 MHz.
23. (new) A method for delivery of a drug, comprising inductively heating a stent body that is capable of being heated and comprises a layer of drug material, via exposure to an electromagnetic field, wherein the delivery or effectiveness of the drug material is affected by heat energy from the heated stent body.
24. (new) The method of claim 23, wherein the drug material is substantially effective only when the heat energy from the stent body has heated the drug material.
25. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the drug material is a drug ingredient adhered to the stent body and is substantially inactive at normal body temperature, and wherein the drug ingredient becomes active after the stent body has heated the drug ingredient to a temperature where it is substantially active.
26. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the drug material comprises an active ingredient that inhibits restenosis in the stent.
27. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the drug material is a drug ingredient that is to be delivered to tissue adjacent the stent body, and presence of which enhances drug-tissue interaction when heat from the stent body causes tissue adjacent the stent body to rise above normal body temperature.
28. (new) The method of claim 23, wherein the drug material is substantially ineffective after the heat energy from the stent body has heated the drug material.

29. (new) The method of claim 23, wherein the drug material is a drug ingredient combined with a heat sensitive release material, and the drug material becomes effective after the release material releases a portion of the drug ingredient or becomes ineffective after the release material is heated.
30. (new) The method of claim 23, wherein the drug material is effective while being heated.
31. (new) A method for delivery of a drug, comprising inductively heating an implantable prosthetic member of an apparatus by applying a magnetic field over a patient's body, wherein the member is implanted in the patient's body, and wherein the member comprises a drug that is operative when the member is heated, and is capable of being controllably heated to elute the drug off of the member.
32. (new) The method of claim 31, wherein the method is used for the treatment of prostate disease.
33. (new) The method of claim 31, wherein the method is used for the treatment of diabetic disease.
34. (new) The method of claim 31, wherein the method is used for the treatment of ophthalmic disease.
35. (new) A method for delivery of a drug, comprising heating inductively an implantable device that comprises at least one coated drug material, wherein the device is implanted in a patient's body, and wherein the drug material is delivered to the patient's body when the device is heated.
36. (new) The method of claim 35, wherein the device is inductively heated at a frequency below 1 MHz.